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MAR 0 8 2019

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE AUDITOR CONDUCT A SUNRISE ANALYSIS OF MANDATING HEALTH CARE COVERAGE FOR CANNABIDIOL OIL DERIVED FROM INDUSTRIAL HEMP.

WHEREAS, industrial hemp is defined under the State's Industrial Hemp Pilot Program as the cultivated plant Cannabis sativa L. and any part of that plant, whether growing or not, with a delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of not more than 0.3 percent on a dry weight basis or a tetrahydrocannabinol concentration allowed by federal law, whichever is greater; and

WHEREAS, industrial hemp contains cannabidiol, a therapeutic non-psychoactive chemical compound, and low levels of tetrahydrocannabinol, a psychoactive chemical compound that is found in high levels in other types of cannabis plant, that are classified as marijuana; and

WHEREAS, the medicinal benefits of cannabidiol have been recently recognized by the United States Food and Drug Administration, which, on June 25, 2018, approved Epidiolex (cannabidiol) oral solution for the treatment of seizures associated with severe forms of epilepsy, specifically, Lennox-Gastaut syndrome and Dravet syndrome, in patients two years of age and older; and

WHEREAS, both cannabidiol and tetrahydrocannabinol have similar medicinal benefits, such as relieving pain, reducing nausea, easing migraines, and reducing inflammation; however, cannabidiol, unlike tetrahydrocannabinol, does not produce a high, does not have psychoactive side effects, does not increase appetite, and does decrease seizures; and

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 20, introduced during the Regular Session of 2019, requires health insurers and similar entities that provide coverage for health care to provide drug coverage for cannabidiol oil that is derived from industrial hemp; and

17.

S.R. NO. 76

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 23-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, before any legislative measure that mandates health insurance coverage for specific health services, specific diseases, or certain providers of health care services as part of individual or group health insurance policies, can be considered, Concurrent Resolutions shall be passed that designate a specific legislative bill for the Auditor to review and prepare a report for submission to the Legislature that assesses both the social and financial effects of the proposed mandated coverage under that legislative bill; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, that the Auditor is requested to assess both the social and financial effects of the proposed mandated coverage of cannabidiol oil that is derived from industrial hemp, as described in House Bill No. 20, introduced during the Regular Session of 2019; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor and the Insurance Commissioner.

OFFERED BY: Really of Bale

SR HMS 2019-2922